

CHAPTER ELEVEN

REAR AXLE, SUSPENSION AND FINAL DRIVE

This chapter contains repair and replacement procedures for the rear wheel, rear hub, rear suspension and final drive unit. Service to the rear suspension consists of periodically checking bolt tightness, replacing swing arm bushings and checking the condition of the rear shock absorber and replacing it as necessary. Tire removal from the rim and tire repair are covered in Chapter Nine.

Rear suspension specifications are listed in **Table 1** and rear suspension torque specifications are listed in **Table 2**.

Table 1 and **Table 2** are located at the end of this chapter.

CAUTION

*Self-locking nuts are used to secure some of the rear suspension components. Honda recommends that all self-locking nuts **must be discarded** once they have been removed. The self-locking portion of the nut is damaged once it has been removed and will no longer properly lock onto the lower holder threads. Always install **new** self-locking*

*nuts. **Never** reinstall a used nut once it has been removed.*

REAR WHEEL

Removal/Installation

Refer to **Figure 1** for this procedure.

NOTE

*The tire tread on the factory equipped tires is directional (**Figure 2**) and must be installed on the correct side of the vehicle. Mark on a piece of masking tape the side of the vehicle from where the wheel was removed and the direction of forward wheel rotation on the rim (**Figure 3**). This is necessary for wheel installation.*

1. Place the vehicle on level ground and set the parking brake. Block the front wheels so the vehicle will not roll in either direction.

- 2. Jack up the rear of the vehicle with a small hydraulic or scissor jack. Place the jack under the frame with a piece of wood between the jack and the frame.
- 3. Place wood block(s) under the frame to support the vehicle securely with the rear wheels off the ground.
- 4. Remove the rear hub nuts (**Figure 4**) securing the rear wheel to the rear hub. Remove the tire and wheel assembly.

removed. See NOTE at the beginning of this procedure; also refer to the direction arrow on the tire side wall.

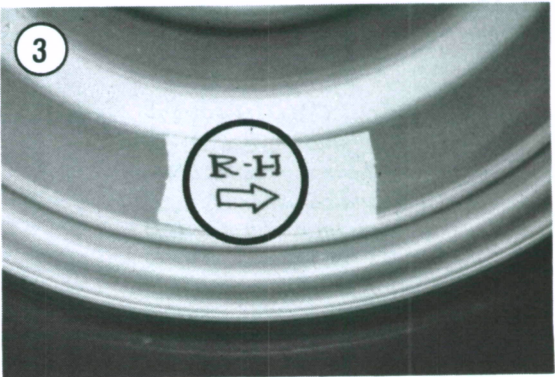
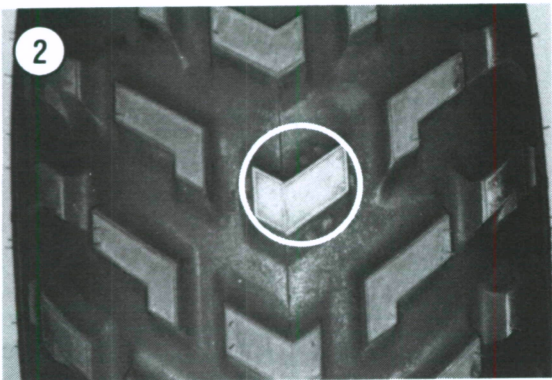
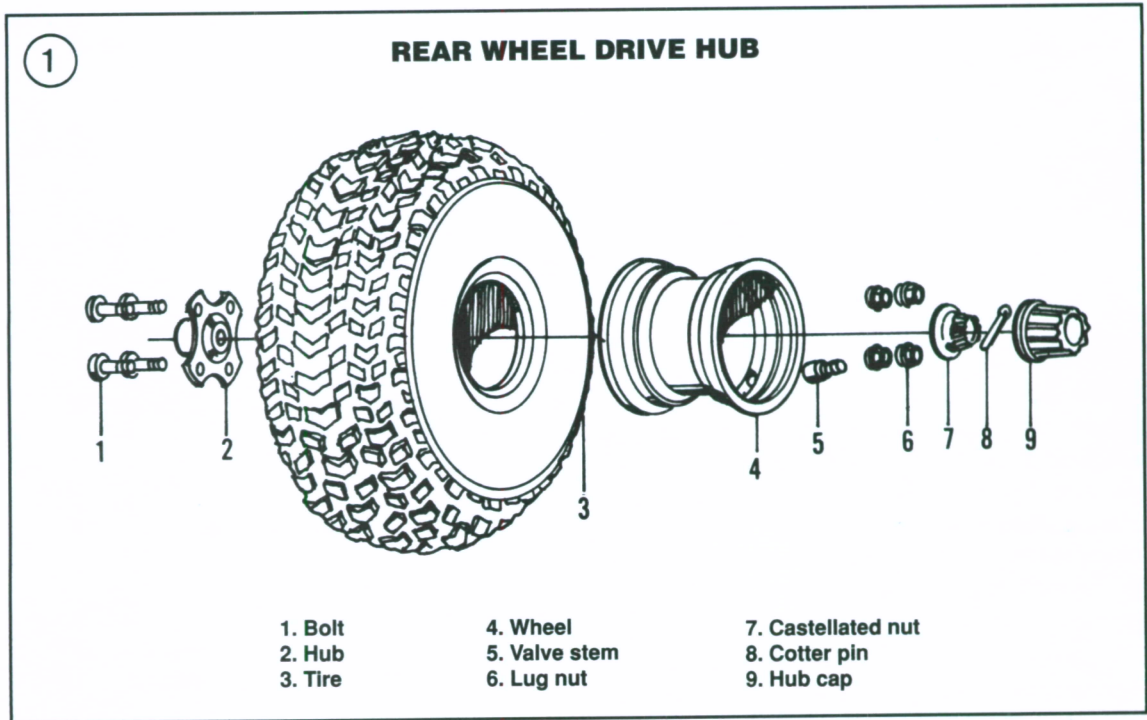
- 5. Install the rear wheel.

CAUTION

Be sure install the lug nuts correctly, since the curved side correctly locates the wheel to the hub studs. If they are installed incorrectly, the wheels will not be centered on the hub, causing vibration and wheel damage.

NOTE

Install the tire and wheel onto the same side of the vehicle from which it was



6. Position the lug nuts with the curved side (**Figure 5**) going on first and install the lug nuts onto the studs. Finger tighten the lug nuts first until the wheel is positioned correctly onto all 4 wheel studs.

WARNING

Always tighten the lug nuts to the correct torque specification or the lug nuts may work loose and the wheel could fall off.

7. Use a torque wrench and tighten the lug nuts to the torque specification listed in **Table 2**.

8. After the wheel is installed completely, rotate it; apply the brake several times to make sure that the wheel rotates freely and that the brake is operating correctly.

9. Jack the front of the vehicle up a little and remove the wood block(s).

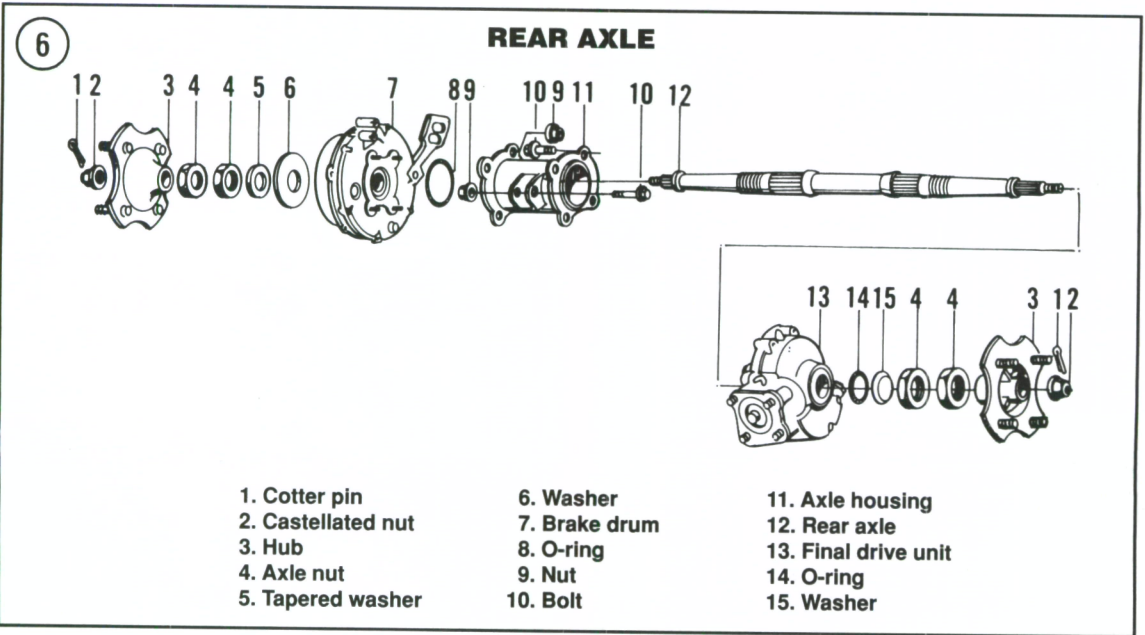
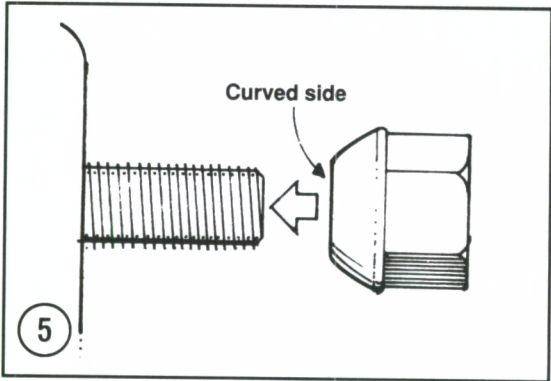
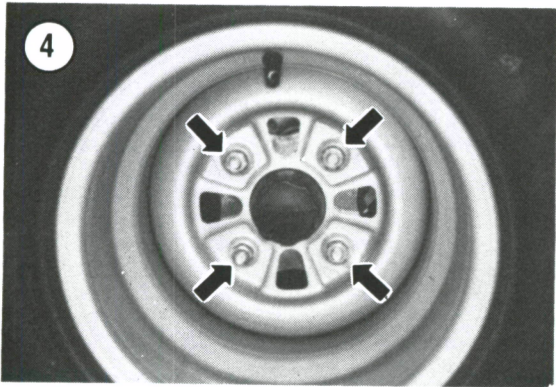
10. Let the jack down, then remove the jack.

REAR AXLE

Removal

Refer to **Figure 6** for this procedure.

1. Place the vehicle on level ground and set the parking brake. Block the front wheels so the vehicle will not roll in either direction.



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